

Have you ever felt like giving up on something, simply because you were told that you could never achieve it? I experienced this many times and I used to believe what others said, that I would never achieve anything. I believed in their words and believed that what they said of me was true. I let their comments affect me in many ways, which was something that I should not have done. Hence, I now choose to believe in myself.

I know that I am someone who cares about other opinions and I take their words very seriously. Ever since the start of last year, I became known as the person who had “horrible” Chinese. Perhaps it was due to my weaker grades in that subject, compared to my circle of friends, who consistently scored A1s. Whenever someone spoke to me in Chinese, one of them would say “Don’t use Chinese, she won’t understand.” Initially, I took it as harmless teasing and laughed it off with them. However, such comments about my “lousy Chinese” started to appear more frequently in our conversations.

On the surface, those comments did not appear to affect me, yet deep down, I started to believe that my Chinese was indeed very horrible. My grades in that subject started to drop and by the time the Mid-year examinations arrived, I had lost my interest in Chinese completely. My initial A2 had dropped to a low B4 and I was the last in class for Chinese. I felt utterly demoralized, yet part of me felt that I had lived up to my friends’ “expectations”.

I was so used to believing in others that I did not try to believe in myself. The turning point for me was when my Chinese teacher pulled me aside for a talk. She told me, “You still have a few months left before the Chinese paper. I have confidence in you, but do you have confidence in yourself?” Her question really made me reflect on the previous months. Why should I let others affect my way of thinking? Why should I listen to others, when I can just listen to myself? I do not blame my friends for my bad results, it was my fault for choosing to believe in them. I realised that having confidence in myself was more important. I decided to believe that I could do it, and my standard of Chinese really improved. It was my negative mindset that affected my results the most. By believing in myself, I scored an A2 for Chinese.

Even though I was told that I could never achieve good results in Chinese, I did not give up. Instead of letting others influence me, I focused on positive thoughts and changed for the better. Success comes to those who believe in themselves. I believe in myself and I know that anything can be accomplished. This, I believe.

Have you ever felt like giving up on something, simply because you were told that you could never achieve it? Have you ever wondered about ignoring those voices and just believe in yourself? I used to be a believer, caring about what others said to me, turning their words into advice and clinged onto their every word. I still am a believer, but I now choose to believe in myself.